

### **DETAILED ACTION**

Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn. During the phone interview conducted 1/5/2010, applicant discussed claim 3 in view of the cited prior art, Hoge (5,540,149). As noted by applicant, Hoge teaches variation in the height of the web path, which is contrary to the limitations being claimed in claim 3, therefore the rejection has been withdrawn and replaced with the following:

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1, 4-7, 15, 21, 22 and 57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi (2001/0037743) in view of Rasmussen (5,697,297).

With respect to claims 1, 15 and method claims 21 and 22, Takahashi teaches in Fig. 1 a multi-color printing unit for a web-offset press comprising a plurality of printing couple pairs, 2b-2d, mounted vertically one above the other in a stack, each printing couple of said printing couple pairs comprising a plate, 4a and 4b, and blanket cylinder, 3a and 3b, and each printing couple pair being arranged so as to print a different color on both sides of a paper web, 7, passing in a vertically upward direction between the printing couples of each pair, as seen in Fig. 1, and an inking system, 6a and 6b,

associated with each print couple operable to supply ink to the plate cylinder, 4a and 4b, thereof in an operative position, wherein the printing unit of Fig. 2 comprises a primary module, 1d, carrying all the printing couple pairs, 2b-2d, and a pair of secondary modules, 10a and 10b, carrying the inking systems, 6a and 6b, the secondary modules, 10a and 10b, being laterally slideable into a non-operative position, as seen in Fig. 2, in which both the secondary modules, 10a and 10b, are separated from the primary module, 1d, wherein the primary, 1d, and secondary modules, 10a and 10b, each define a path for the paper web extending vertically between the print couples of each pair, as seen in Fig. 1.

However, Takahashi fails to teach means for moving the primary module out from between the secondary modules when the secondary modules are in their non-operative positions and separated from the primary module to enable a second primary module, comprising a plurality of printing couple pairs in which the plate and blanket cylinders are of a different diameter to the diameter of the plate cylinders of the original primary module, to take the place of the original primary module so that the secondary modules can be moved back into an operative position with said second primary module, where the second primary module being positionable in place of the original primary module such that the location of web path associated with the original primary module and with the second primary module remains unchanged.

Rasmussen teaches means for moving a plurality of primary modules, 8 and 16 as seen in Fig. 1A and Fig. 1B of Ramussen, containing a plurality of plate and blanket cylinders, 10 and 9 of module 8 and 17 and 18 of module 16, out from ink system, 7, so

to separate the plate and blanket cylinders, 10 and 9, from a primary module tower as seen in Fig. 1A-B to enable a second primary module, 16 of Fig. 1B of Rasmussen, comprising a plurality of printing couple pairs in which the plate and blanket cylinders, 17 and 18, of a different diameter to the diameter of the plate cylinders, 10 and 9, of the original primary module, 8, when Fig. 1A is compared to Fig. 1B, Col. 2 lines 39-43, therefore taking the place of the original primary module, 8, of Fig. 1A, where the second primary module, 16 of FIG. 1B, is positionable in place of the original primary module, 8 of Fig. 1A, such that the location of web path, i.e. arrow, associated with the original primary module, 8 of Fig. 1A and with the second primary module, 16 of Fig. 1B, remains unchanged, keeping the inline geometry, as seen in Figs. 1A-B.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the printing unit of Takahashi to include the removable primary module which includes plate cylinder, 10 and blanket cylinder, 9, with a selected secondary primary module, 16, of Fig. 1B, that includes a different diameter to the diameter of the plate cylinders, 10, of the original primary module, 8, as seen in Fig. 1A of Rasmussen because Rasmussen teaches in Col. 2 lines 13-21 and 39-43, the exchange of such printing modules with different plate and blanket cylinder diameters allows for an increased flexibility in printing methods and formats, therefore increasing the versatile of the taught printing unit of Takahashi.

With respect to claim 4, Takahashi teaches in Fig. 1 a multi-color printing unit for a web-offset press wherein each of the secondary modules, 10 and 10b, are slideable laterally away from the primary module, 1d, in opposite directions, as seen in Fig. 2.

With respect to claim 5, Takahashi teaches in Fig. 1 a multi-color printing unit for a web-offset press wherein each secondary module, 10a and 10b, is slideably mounted on a supporting base, 1a and 1e.

With respect to claim 6, Takahashi teaches in Fig. 5 and 6 a multi-color printing unit for a web-offset press wherein a slide unit, seen in Fig. 5 and 6 attached to each of the secondary modules, 10a and 10b, for cooperation with a guide track, 20.

With respect to claim 7, Takahashi teaches in Fig. 1 a multi-color printing unit for a web-offset press wherein the slide unit includes pre-loaded roller bearings, inherently found in the rollers, 18, that cooperate with a inherent recess found on the guide track, 20.

With respect to claim 57, Takahashi teaches in Fig. 1 a multi-color printing unit for a web-offset press the primary module, 1d, is mounted to said supporting base, 1a and 1e, separately to each of the secondary modules, 10a and 10b.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MATTHEW G. MARINI whose telephone number is (571)272-2676. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on (571)-272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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